



Notes from the Director

No. 7

13 July 1977

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I have made the following statement available to the press on 13 July in response to a United Press International story which contained a great many inaccuracies:

"The Director of Central Intelligence confirms that the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, Mr. E. Henry Knoche, submitted his resignation to the President on 5 July, to be effective on 1 August 1977. The President has not yet nominated a successor. There are no plans for forced retirements or removals of any top CIA officials. There are no plans for major changes in the CIA organization at this time."

I met the senior officers of the Agency at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 13 July. I pointed out to them that I had not requested the resignation or retirement of Mr. Knoche and was somewhat surprised by his action. I further informed the senior officers, as the press statement says, that I am contemplating no immediate personnel changes within the senior ranks or anywhere else in the Agency. As you all are aware from past issuances of "Notes from the Director," an extensive study is now going on in the Executive Branch to determine if any organizational restructuring should take place within the Intelligence Community. Even if I desired to make changes of any sort, it would obviously not make any sense to do so until the reorganizational study is completed and the President has announced his decision.

I am sure that all of you join me in wishing Mr. Knoche well as he sets out on new adventures. I am grateful for his support over these past five months and many of you are appreciative of his fine leadership within the Agency over many years. The President has not yet selected Mr. Knoche's successor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stansfield Turner".

STANSFIELD TURNER
Director

FROM THE DDCI

On 5 July of this year I asked the President to accept my resignation as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence effective 1 August.

It was a most difficult decision. We have successfully come through some difficult times together in recent years. More change looms on the horizon, and properly so. Dealing with these challenges will be an exciting task. But in the end, having weighed all the factors, I concluded that it would be in the best interests of the Agency and the nation's intelligence effort if I stepped aside now to facilitate the Director's task as he prepares to make decisions about new organizational forms and the kind of new leadership that he will need to carry out his future plans.

I urge all of you to continue to devote your best efforts to the tasks at hand as you have always done. I know you will.

I leave you with a great sense of satisfaction at the things we have been able to do together. I leave you with a deep sense of gratitude for your friendship, your support, your professional excellence. I leave you with pride at having been a part of it all.

You have my very best wishes for the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Stroehle".